## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 NSCE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SAA-01 SES-02 INRE-00 IO-14 SSM-05 /062 W

-----034105 011644Z /44

O 011625Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2143
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

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USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DEPT FOR S/PRS AND PA, PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

USICA FOR PGM/PP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L.)

SUBJECT: ATHERTON KAMEL REMARKS AFTER MEETING AUGUST 1

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR ATHERTON AND FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL AFTER THEIR MEETING AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON AUGUST 1.

ATHERTON: ONCE AGAIN, I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR GIVING ME SO MUCH OF HIS TIME. I HAD TWO EARLIER MEETINGS WITH THE FM PLUS THE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT ON SUNDAY, AND BOTH THE MINISTER AND I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL BEFORE I LEAVE TO GET TOGETHER THIS AFTERNOON AND REVIEW THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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DISCUSSIONS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE DURING MY VISIT -TO MAKE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT WE FULLY UNDERSTAND ALL
THE IMPORTANT SUBJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED, THAT
THERE WERE NO DETAILS LEFT UNDISCUSSED. THIS HAS BEEN
A VERY USEFUL REVIEW REALLY -- A RECAPITULATION OF THE
EARLIER TALKS THAT WE HAD. I WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW
TO GO BACK TO ISRAEL AND WAIT THERE FOR SECRETARY VANCE'S

ARRIVAL IN THE AREA, AND THEN WE WILL JOIN HIM FOR HIS TALKS HERE. THAT IS REALLY ALL I HAVE TO SAY TODAY. I WOULD BE GLAD TO TAKE ONE OR TWO QUESTIONS AND THEN I HAVE TO MOVE ON. QUESTION: IS THE SITUATION "AS IS", OR IS THERE ANY GLIMMER AT ALL?

ATHERTON: WELL, I THINK THE SITUATION IS "AS IS". BUT THE IMPORTANT POINT I WOULD MAKE IS THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS COMING HERE IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE AND WILL CARRY ON THIS PROCESS OF CONSULTATIONS.

QUESTION: HAS ANYTHING CHANGED, MR. ATHERTON, IN YOUR TALKS IN THE PAST TWO DAYS.

ATHERTON: NO. THIS TALK WAS BASICALLY A REVIEW AND A RECAPITULATION OF THE PREVIOUS TALKS. WE DID NOT ATTEMPT TO BREAK ANY NEW GROUND IN THE TALKS TODAY.

QUESTION: ARE YOU TRYING TO GET PRESIDENT SADAT TO CHANGE HIS MIND ON HAVING FURTHER TALKS?

ATHERTON: I THINK THE ANSWER TO THAT AND ALL SUCH QUESTIONS REALLY IS GOING TO HAVE TO AWAIT THE SECRETARY'S VISIT HERE, AND THAT IS THE POINT AT WHICH WE CAN BEGIN TO ADDRESS SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS. UNCLASSIFIED

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THANK YOU

QUESTION: WE WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

KAMEL: WELL, I WANT TO EXPRESS AGAIN MY APPRECIATION AND MY PLEASURE TO BE TALKING WITH AMBASSADOR ATHERTON. WE HAVE A VERY GOOD UNDERSTANDING AND WE ALWAYS EXCHANGE VIEWS IN A FRANK AND CONSTRUCTIVE WAY. HE INFORMED ME TODAY THAT SECRETARY VANCE WILL BE COMING TO THE AREA AND WILL BE COMING TO EGYPT, I THINK, ON THE 7TH OF AUGUST, AND WE ARE VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOME AND MEET THE SECRETARY HERE AND CONTINUE OUR TALKS AND DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES ON WHICH WE COUNT AS A FRIEND AND AS A FULL PARTNER IN THE PEACE PROCESS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

(AFTER ATHERTON'S DEPARTURE, KAMEL SAID THE FOLLOWING IN RESPONSE TO PERSISTENT QUESTIONS FROM REPORTERS WHO WERE STILL PRESENT):

QUESTION: INAUDIBLE

KAMEL: ... IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN PUT IN THE RIGHT CONTEXT

... INAUDIBLE ... WITHDRAWING FROM OUR POSITIONS OR FROM CONTINUING OUR EFFORTS TO REACH PEACE. AS I SAID BEFORE, WE HAVE NO INHIBITIONS AT ALL AT MEETING THE ISRAELIS, BUT WE THINK THAT WHEN WE DO THAT, IT SHOULD BE IN THE RIGHT FRAME, AND IT SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS NOT JUST A WASTE OF TIME. ACCORDINGLY WE ALWAYS SAID, AND I REPEAT IT NOW, THAT WE ARE MOST WILLING TO GO AND MEET THE ISRAELIS, PROVIDING OUR TALKS WILL CONCENTRATE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE THROUGH PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS, THROUGH SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS,

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THROUGH GOOD NEIGHBORLY GOOD RELATIONS. BUT TERRITORY AND SOVEREIGNTY ARE EXCLUDED. AND THIS IS NOT AN EGYPTIAN POSITION THIS IS AN INTERNATIONAL POSITION. SO I FEEL SOMETIMES HURT WHEN I HEAR STATEMENTS THAT OUR POSITIONS WERE DISAPPOINTING, BECAUSE IT IS A WELL-KNOWN FACT THAT SINCE -- AND EVEN BEFORE -- SADAT TOOK HIS INITIATIVE AND MADE HIS VISIT TO ISRAEL OUR POSITIONS HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT AND CONSTRUCTIVE AND I DON'T THINK ANYBODY SHOULD BE DISAPPOINTED IN OUR APPROACH -- WHICH IS A SINCERE AND RIGHT APPROACH TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LASTING AND COMPREHENSIVE PEACE.

QUESTION: ARE YOU ANY MORE OPTIMISTIC TODAY THAT THERE WILL BE ANOTHER TRI-PARTITE MEETING THAN YOU WERE TWO DAYS AGO?

KAMEL: WELL, I AM NOT ENTITLED TO SPEAK ABOUT THAT.
PRESIDENT SADAT EXPLAINED VERY CLEARLY IN WHICH
CONTEXT ANY SUCH MOVEMENT SHOULD TAKE PLACE AND I CAN'T
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ADD TO WHAT HE SAID. THANK YOU.

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